

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following:

[0002] In telecommunication networks or systems, data or a data stream is transported from one location in the network to another location in the network at various data rates. Typically, the data is transported between locations based on some synchronized or timed event. Thus, there is a need to have an accurate timing mechanism that is in phase with other timing sources in the system. Occasionally, the situation arises wherein the timing mechanism fails and the timing signal is lost temporarily temporality. Eventually, the timing signal is restored, however, when the timing device is restored, it is typically not synchronized or in phase with other timing sources.

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following:

[0010] Referring now to FIG. 1, a system 10 includes a timing reference selector unit 12 coupled to a plurality of external timing sources 14 and an internal timing source 16. The connections shown are intended to show logical connections. In the event that all of the timing signals are lost, which includes at least the primary and secondary signal source 14, then the system 10 switches to use an internal signal generated by the internal timing source 16. The internal timing source 16 generates the 8 kHz reference signal by taking a 19.44 MHz signal and dividing by the value 2430 to get 8 kHz ($8,000 * 2430 = 19,440,000$). However, when a timing source fails and a replacement timing source is activated, the timing signal will be out of phase with respect to other timing signals in the system 10, and hence, the timing signals will have to be phase phased aligned.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following:

[0013] The activity unit 20 also sends the alarm conditions to a unit 22. The unit 22 is coupled to a phase detection unit 24 and a Voltage Control Oscillator (VCO) 26. The phase detection unit 24 is coupled to a low-pass filter (LPF) unit 28, which is coupled to the VCO 26. Thus, the unit 22, detector phase detection unit 24, the LPF unit 28, and the VCO 26 form a feedback loop unit, which is discussed in detail below. The VCO 26 is also coupled to a generator

unit 30. The unit 30 receives the output signal from the VCO 26 to generate and output a signal 34 at 19.44 MHz and a signal 36 at 8 kHz. The unit 30 is coupled to a metastability flip-flop (MSFF) unit 32, which is coupled to and receives a reference signal from the selector unit 12. Using the reference signal, the MSFF unit 32 produces and outputs a signal to the unit 30. Additionally, the selector unit 12 is coupled to the MSFF unit 38 and the control unit 18 is coupled to the MSFF unit 40. Each of the MSFF units 38 and 40 output signals to the internal timing source unit 16.